

# Iowa's Vaccines for Children Program

**April 26, 2023**

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# Presentation Outline



- Medicaid Billing with Iowa Medicaid
- Review of January 2023 webinar
- Vaccine Inventory & New Products
  - Reusable shipping containers
  - New Rotarix vaccine presentation
  - Vaqta Hep A presentation change
  - Merck MMR, MMR-V and Varicella SQ Administration
  - COVID-19 vaccine & VFC Program
- Tips & Tricks to avoid common noncompliance issues
- Q&A - Ask your questions!



# Iowa Medicaid

Billing Medicaid for VFC vaccine administration fee

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STATE OF IOWA DEPARTMENT OF

Health <sup>AND</sup> Human

SERVICES

# VACCINATIONS FOR CHILDREN BILLING FOR PROVIDERS

Vaccine For Children (VFC)

March 17, 2023

# What is VFC?

VFC is a federally funded program for children ages 0-18 years old at no cost to the member.

In order to be eligible for the VFC program the child must be 18 years old or younger and meet **one** of the following criteria:

- ✓ Medicaid-eligible
- ✓ Uninsured
- ✓ Underinsured
- ✓ American Indian or Alaska Native

## What is VFC, Con't.

- VFC-eligible children, regardless of the state of residence, may be seen at Iowa VFC **enrolled provider sites** and **\*\*receive vaccines provided by the Iowa VFC Program.**
- All providers are required to participate in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program in order to **bill vaccine administration** for covered vaccines.

# Provider Enrollment Information

- Providers vaccinating Medicaid-enrolled children from another state must enroll as a Medicaid provider in that state to bill for a vaccine administration fee and/or office visit fee.
- VFC Providers must properly screen patients for VFC eligibility and document the eligibility status at each immunization encounter.

# Provider Enrollment Information

- VFC Providers must select and document the VFC eligibility category requiring the least out-of-pocket expense to the patient.
- Specific to Medicaid-enrolled children, VFC Providers should administer VFC vaccines and **bill Medicaid for the administration fee.**
- This option is preferred as it provides the least out-of-pocket expense for the family.
- **VFC Providers cannot bill Medicaid for the cost of the VFC vaccine.**



# HAWKI

- Children enrolled in Hawki or presenting a Hawki CO member ID must be vaccinated with a private purchased vaccine as they are NOT eligible for a VFC vaccine as Hawki children are considered to be insured and therefore do not meet the criteria for VFC.
- The MCOs are to pay for both the administration of the vaccine and the vaccine itself.
- This applies to vaccinations given at a public health clinic or at a provider's office.

# PHARMACY

- Effective June 1, 2021, Medicaid enrolled pharmacists may order and administer vaccines in compliance with the Iowa Board of Pharmacy ([Statewide Protocols | Iowa Board of Pharmacy](#))
- Pharmacies providing vaccine services to children age 18 and under must enroll in the Vaccines for Children (VFC) through the Iowa Department of Public Health.
- See IL 2153-MC-FFS7.

# Pharmacy

- Vaccine drug orders must be kept on file at the pharmacy.
- Medicaid covers vaccines as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) including the frequency.
- Pharmacies will only be able to bill for Medicaid non-dual eligible enrollees. Dual eligible enrollees will continue to access immunization services through Medicare.

# PHARMACY

- All billing and reimbursement of vaccines, regardless of provider type, is through the Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) to ensure consistency among providers as well as a coordinated Medicaid immunization record for the member.
- **Claims submitted under Pharmacy Point of Sale (POS) will deny.**
- Vaccine administration is billed as an 837P electronic transaction (or medical claims billing).

# Pharmacy

- Prior to ordering and administration of a vaccine, the pharmacist must verify Medicaid, vaccine coverage, and review the statewide immunization registry (IRIS).
- Within thirty (30) calendar days following administration of any vaccine, the pharmacist shall report such administration to:
  - the patient's primary health care provider
  - primary physician
  - and IRIS

# PHARMACY

- Providers should go through their **electronic clearing house for detailed billing instructions**, see electronic billing tips and for additional information.
- In addition to other required fields, vaccines administered in a pharmacy require the National Provider Identifier (NPI) of the referring/ordering provider (when applicable), rendering provider and billing provider.
  - The referring/ordering provider NPI would be either the pharmacist or other provider requesting the vaccine.

# PHARMACY

- When a pharmacist is linked to a pharmacy:
  - the pharmacist NPI = rendering provider ID# and the pharmacy NPI = billing provider.
- When pharmacist is NOT linked to a pharmacy:
  - the pharmacist NPI = rendering provider ID# and the pharmacist NPI = billing provider.
  - (See IL 2190 for NPI billing references chart)

# PHARMACY

- Prior to ordering and administration of a vaccine, the pharmacist must verify Medicaid eligibility, vaccine coverage, and review the statewide immunization registry (IRIS).
- Refer to the Physician Services Provider Manual for immunization instructions.



# Pharmacy Billing – Dispensing Fee

## Fee Schedule – Pharmacy Dispensing Fee

Effective Date*	Dispensing Fee	End Date
February 1, 2013	\$10.02	June 30, 2013
July 1, 2013	\$10.12	July 31, 2014
August 1, 2014	\$11.73	July 31, 2016
August 1, 2016	\$10.02	October 31, 2018
November 1, 2018	\$10.07	October 31, 2021
November 1, 2021	\$10.38	

\*For claims processed on or after this date.

# Pharmacy Billing – Codes to be used for administration

Procedure Code	Procedure Description
90471	Immunization administration (includes percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular injections); one vaccine (single or combination vaccine or toxoid)
90472	Immunization administration (includes percutaneous, intradermal, subcutaneous, or intramuscular injections); each additional vaccine (single or combination vaccine or toxoid) (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
90473	Immunization administration by intranasal or oral route; one vaccine (single or combination vaccine or toxoid)
90474	Immunization administration by intranasal or oral route; each additional vaccine (single or combination vaccine or toxoid) (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)
90460	Immunization administration through 18 years of age by any route of administration, with counseling by physician or other qualified health care professional; first or only component of each vaccine or toxoid administered.
90461	Immunization administration through 18 years of age by any route of administration, with counseling by physician or other qualified health care professional; each additional vaccine or toxoid component administered (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure).

# Pharmacy Billing

## Codes to be used for influenza ages 2+, pneumococcal and meningococcal for ages 18+ and zoster for ages 50+

Procedure Code	Procedure Description
90620	Meningococcal recombinant protein and outer membrane vesicle vaccine, Serogroup B, 2 dose schedule, for intramuscular use
90621	Meningococcal recombinant lipoprotein vaccine, Serogroup B, 2 or 3 dose schedule, for intramuscular use
90653	Influenza virus vaccine (IIV), preservative free, for use in individuals 65 years of age and above, for intramuscular use
90656	Influenza virus vaccine, split virus, preservative free, for use in individuals 3 years of age and above, for intramuscular use
90670	Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine, 13-valent, for intramuscular use
90672	Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent, live, for intranasal use in individuals 2 years of age through 49.

# Pharmacy Billing

## Codes to be used for influenza ages 2+, pneumococcal and meningococcal for ages 18+ and zoster for ages 50+

Procedure Code	Procedure Description
90673	Influenza virus vaccine, trivalent, derived from recombinant DNA, preservative free, for intramuscular use for 18 years of age and older.
90674	Influenza virus vaccine; quadrivalent, derived from cell cultures, subunit, preservative and antibiotic free, for intramuscular use.
90682	Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent, (RIV4), derived from recombinant DNA, preservative and antibiotic free for intramuscular use.
90686	Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent, split virus, preservative free, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, for intramuscular use.
90688	Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent, split virus, when administered to individuals 3 years of age and older, with preservative, for intramuscular use.
90714	Tetanus and diphtheria toxoids (Td) adsorbed, preservative free, for use in individuals seven years or older, for intramuscular use.

# Pharmacy Billing

## Codes to be used for influenza ages 2+, pneumococcal and meningococcal for ages 18+ and zoster for ages 50+

Procedure Code	Procedure Description
90715	Tetanus, diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccine (Tdap), for use in individuals 7 years or older, for intramuscular use.
90732	Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine, 23-valent, adult or immunosuppressed patient dosage, for use in individuals 2 years of age or older, for subcutaneous or intramuscular use.
90733	Meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine (any group(s)), for subcutaneous use, age 2 years of age and older.
90734	Meningococcal conjugate vaccine, Serogroups A,C,Y and W-135 (trivalent), for intramuscular use, age 11 through 55.
90736	Zoster (shingles) Vaccine, live, for subcutaneous injection, age 50 and older.
90750	Zoster (shingles) Vaccine, age 50 and older for intramuscular use.
90756	Influenza virus vaccine, quadrivalent, antibiotic free, for intramuscular use.

# Provider Information

- There are situations when there is a statewide shortage of an individual vaccine.
- In those situations, the IHH now has the authority to reimburse providers who are enrolled in the VFC program for vaccines administered when the Iowa Department of Public Health (HHS) stock is depleted without an exception to policy.

# Provider Information

- The HHS will be notified when this situation occurs and will notify providers via an Informational Letter.
- In the situation outlined above providers will be instructed to append the “U8” modifier when billing children’s vaccine codes, only **after** the date provided by HHS that the statewide stock is depleted.

# Provider Billing: U8 Modifier

- The “U8” modifier is to be appended **only** to indicate that the vaccine administered is from the provider’s private stock after the HHS stock is depleted and is not to be used for any other purpose.
- If the provider uses all federal-supplied vaccine and must use private stock, the provider can bill with modifier U8 to receive reimbursement.
- See IL 2018-MC-FFS9



# Provider Billing: U8 Modifier

When billing with the “U8” modifier, the claim must be:

- ❑ Submitted with the “U8” modifier appended to the appropriate CPT/HCPCS code(s).
- ❑ Include sub-charges for each line item / vaccine code billed.
- ❑ Reimbursement at the fee schedule rate will only occur when line-item sub-charges are equal to or greater than the HHS fee-schedule rate.
- ❑ Claims submitted after the HHS stock is depleted without the “U8” modifier appended will result in non-payment of the vaccine codes billed.

# BILLING

## Billing Instructions:

- Billing of immunizations involves two separate items, the vaccine code itself and the code for the service of vaccine administration.
- For reimbursement to process correctly it is important to **list all the vaccine codes on claim before the administration codes.**
- Both the vaccine and vaccine administration codes must be billed on the same claim.

# BILLING

- The vaccine code must be billed at zero dollars.
- Reimbursement will be made only for the appropriate vaccine administration code.
- Use the 837P or the equivalent to the CMS 1500.

# ADDITIONAL PAYMENT INFORMATION

- Reimbursement will be made at the currently published fee schedule rate.
- **Fee Schedule:** The Iowa Medicaid fee schedule is available to verify reimbursement rates on specific CPT codes.
- The current fee schedule rates are available at:

[http://www.hhs.state.ia.us/Reports\\_Publications/FeeSchedule.html](http://www.hhs.state.ia.us/Reports_Publications/FeeSchedule.html)

# RESOURCES

- If you have any questions please contact the HHS Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, or locally in Des Moines at 515-256-4609 or email at [imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us).
- For more information on VFC in Iowa, see the Iowa Department of Public Health's website: <https://hhs.iowa.gov/immtb/immunization/vfc>
- VFC Program, please email [IowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:IowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov)

# RESOURCES

- A pharmacist who orders and administers the vaccine must be Medicaid enrolled. See IL 2153-MC-FFS7.
- Use of the “U8” Modifier – State Supplied Vaccines, IL 1151
- Pharmacist Administered Vaccines, IL 2190-MC-FFS
- For specialized guidance for children under Hawki, see IL 2061-MC-FFS8.

# Questions

Question: I was told that in order to be able to bill Medicaid for adult vaccines we have to be a VFC provider.

Answer: It is not a requirement. See Informational letter 2190

(<https://secureapp.hhs.state.ia.us/IMPA/Information/Bulletins.aspx>)

# Questions





# Review of January 2023 webinar

# Topics Covered in January 2023 Webinar

- Launch of two new vaccine products: Vaxneuvance & PRIORIX
- 2023-24 Influenza Vaccine Pre-book information and demo
- Tips & Tricks to avoid common noncompliance issues
  - Reporting Changes of Key Staff
  - Vaccine Management Plan
  - Backup Temperature Monitoring Devices
  - VIS/VAERS
  - Disconnection from Power Supply
  - Vaccine Administration Fee



# Vaccine Inventory & New Products

# Vaccine Inventory Management Reminders

- Complete a monthly count of vaccine and diluent doses to verify actual inventory prior to ordering
  - IRIS vaccine inventories should match actual refrigerator/freezer vaccine counts
  - If inventory discrepancies are identified, an inventory hand count should be conducted weekly
  - Ensure enough vaccine inventory to meet the needs of the facility
- Rotate vaccine and check expiration dates
- Keep VFC vaccine separate from private vaccine and clearly label both. Train staff to distinguish VFC vaccine from private stock
- Order vaccines in the appropriate amounts and do not over order
  - Order vaccines following the facility's assigned ordering frequency (monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly)
  - Review recommended quantities in IRIS on order screen
  - Avoid stockpiling or inventory buildup
  - Avoid unnecessary expiring and wasting of publicly funded vaccines

# Reusable Shipping Containers

- After delivery, VFC Providers are expected to ship EcoFlex cooler back to the vendor to be inspected, cleaned and refurbished for re-use
- Each EcoFlex cooler will include a package insert with handling instructions and a prepaid UPS return label on the inner flap
- VFC Providers should return the coolers via UPS on their next delivery day. Providers will not need to schedule a pick-up if they have a regular UPS delivery
- Expired vaccines should not be returned in these packages.
- Send questions to [IowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:IowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov)



# Rotarix (GSK) Presentation Change

- New Rotarix presentation
  - New liquid formulation, does not require reconstitution
  - Lyophilized formulation retired from ordering
  - No change to storage & handling, age indications, scheduling, etc.
    - Two doses at 2 months and 4 months of age
    - Oral administration
    - Store 2° to 8°C (36° to 46°F)
- Available to order through VFC Program
  - No change to ordering quantities: 10 pack – 1 oral dose
  - Continue to administer lyophilized formulation to avoid wastage
  - No impact on RotaTeq availability

# Vaqta Hep A Presentation Change

- Vaqta (Merck) presentation changes
  - Temporarily shipped 10 pack-1 dose vial (NDC: 00006-4831-41)
  - 10 pack- single dose syringe is available again (NDC: 00006-4095-02)
  - No change to storage & handling, age indications, scheduling, etc.
    - Store 2° to 8°C (36° to 46°F)
- Single dose syringe available to order through VFC Program
  - Continue to administer single dose vials and syringes to avoid wastage
  - No impact on Havrix (GSK) availability

# IM administration of Merck's MMR, MMR-V and Varicella vaccines

- Merck's MMR, MMR-Varicella, and Varicella vaccines were approved by FDA on February 27, 2023 to be administered via intramuscular (IM) injection in addition to sub-cutaneous (SQ) injection.
- Updated package inserts for these vaccines:
  - MMR vaccine: [Measles, Mumps and Rubella Virus Vaccine Live | FDA](#)
  - MMR-Varicella vaccine: [PROQUAD | FDA](#)
  - Varicella vaccine: [VARIVAX \(refrigerated and frozen formulations\) | FDA](#)
- Change does not apply to GSK's MMR vaccine (SQ injection)



# Questions regarding vaccine changes:

- For questions regarding use or administration of vaccines, contact Shelly Jensen, RN BSN at 1-800-831-6293 ext. 2
- For questions regarding vaccine orders, contact the VFC Program at [IowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:IowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov)

# COVID-19 Vaccine & VFC Program

- Pediatric COVID-19 vaccine will be added to the VFC contract after commercialization
  - VFC Providers will be able to order and administer COVID-19 vaccines for VFC eligible pediatric patients
  - Date of transition, available products, formulations, presentations, and ordering processes to be determined
  - VFC COVID-19 vaccines will be expected to be returned through same processes as other VFC vaccines
  - More information to come regarding COVID-19 vaccines
- Currently no change to the CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Agreement
  - Must be enrolled to administer COVID-19 vaccines
  - Anticipated discontinuation of this program after commercialization



# Tips & Tricks to Avoid Common Noncompliance Issues

How to ace your next site visit!

# Top VFC Non-Compliance Issues

- Documentation: Borrowing Reasons
- Documentation: Borrowing Documentation
- Certificate of Calibration Testing
  - Ordering Replacement Digital Data Loggers (DDLs)
  - Ordering Temperature Logs

# I) Documentation: Borrowing Reasons

- **Requirement:**

- Occurs when VFC vaccine is administered to a private-pay patient, or private vaccine is administered to a VFC-eligible patient.
- **VACCINE BORROWING SHOULD NOT ROUTINELY OCCUR**

## When it is **OK** to borrow:

- Borrowing short-dated vaccine to prevent vaccine expiration
- Vaccine delivery delays
- Vaccine damaged in transit

## When it is **NOT OK** to borrow:

- If borrowing from VFC stock would result in vaccine not being available for VFC patients
- Routine borrowing for any reason
- Repeated human error
- Running out of stock between orders

# I) Documentation: Borrowing Reasons

- **Action Step:**

- Staff training is essential to avoid accidental use of the wrong vaccine inventory. Annually, all clinic staff must be trained on the following:
  - Proper VFC patient eligibility screening and documentation
  - Administering the appropriate vaccine inventory to patient per eligibility screening process
  - Clinic procedures for vaccine inventory management
- VFC providers should use the Vaccine Management and Borrowing Tool for training guidance and documentation

## 2) Documentation: Borrowing Documentation

- **Requirement:**

- VFC providers must document occurrences of vaccine borrowing on the Vaccine Borrowing Report Form and complete corrective action in IRIS to update VFC and private vaccine inventory

### **Action Step:**

- Report all vaccine borrowing occurrences to the Iowa VFC Program on [VFC Vaccine Borrowing Report](#)
  - Email to [iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov) or fax to 1-800-831-6292
  - Add your VFC PIN to document
- Clinic staff is trained and able to document borrowing and payback actions in IRIS: [VFC-IRIS Vaccine Borrowing Documentation](#)

# 3) Certificate of Calibration Testing

## ■ Requirement:

- Certificates of calibration testing provide confidence that the temperature monitoring device is measuring temperatures accurately
- All units storing VFC vaccines **MUST** have a calibrated temperature monitoring device with a current and valid certificate of calibration testing.
- Must contain the model number, serial number, date of calibration, and measurement results indicating the unit passed testing.
- Documentation that uncertainty is within suitable limits (recommended uncertainty = +/-1 degree Fahrenheit or 0.5 degree Celsius) and the name of the device are recommended but not required.

## **Action Step:**

Ensure your VFC vaccines are monitored by a continuous temperature monitoring device (DDL) with a valid and up to date certificate of calibration.

Contact the Iowa VFC Program at [IowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:IowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov) regarding ordering new DDL



# Ordering Replacement DDLs

- Immunization Program has Log Tag 400s available to VFC Providers at no cost
- Send email request to [iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov)

# Ordering Replacement Temp Logs

- Immunization Materials Order Form:  
<https://hhs.iowa.gov/immtb/immunization/order-form>
- Temp Logs under Vaccines For Children header
  - Available refrigerator and freezer temp logs in Fahrenheit and Celsius
  - Select Quantity from drop down menu
  - Complete Shipping Information at the bottom of the page

Temperature Log Chart - Fahrenheit - Refrigerator

-Quantity- ▼



This 8½x11 temperature log is designed to chart one month of refrigerator temperatures in Fahrenheit. It is designed for use for any setting that is storing vaccine.

# Clinic Status Changes Must Be Reported

- VFC Providers must communicate changes to clinic status to the Iowa VFC Program, including, but not limited to:
  - Permanent closures
  - Temporary closures
  - Moving locations
  - Anything that would affect delivery, storage or monitoring VFC vaccine
  
- Send email to [iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov)

# VFC Program Resources

- [Iowa HHS VFC Program](#)
- [Immunization Materials Order Form](#): Includes Temp Logs
- [2023 VFC Provider List](#)
- [VFC Operations Guide](#)
  - [MCO/IA Health Link Member ID Cards](#)
  - [MCO/hawk-I Member ID Cards](#)
  - [VFC Eligibility and Insurance Situations - Quick View](#)
- [Vaccines for Children Program \(CDC\)](#)
- Register for 2023 VFC Webinar Series:
  - [July 19, 2023](#)
  - [November 29, 2023](#)

# Questions?



- Email: [iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov](mailto:iowaVFC@idph.iowa.gov)
- Phone: 1-800-831-6293
- Fax: 1-800-831-6292

Website: <https://hhs.iowa.gov/immmtb/immunization/vfc>